**Pinhat Lift Irrigation Project on Chambal river**

3546. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Uttar Pradesh Government have constructed a lift irrigation project named Pinhat Lift Irrigation Project on Chambal river in Bah Tehsil of Agra District; if so, how much water is proposed to be lifted from Chambal river and how much area is proposed for irrigation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Madhya Pradesh Government have objected to the construction of this project, considering the construction of the project as unauthorised;

(c) if so, what action has been taken by the Uttar Pradesh Government to stop the work on this project in view of objections raised by Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) whether the Government of India propose to direct the Uttar Pradesh Government to take the clearance from the Madhya Pradesh Government before starting work on the project in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) The project has been returned to Government of Uttar Pradesh in 1986 to resolve inter-State issues with Government of Madhya Pradesh.

**Simplification of procedure for clearing forest cases**

3547. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many development works in Madhya Pradesh are delayed or their sanction is being withheld on account of delay in clearance of forest cases;

(b) whether it is also a fact that delay is on account of the fact that the formats prescribed for preparation of cases are being continuously modified and the information desired is so elaborate that it takes lot of time to collect the information and thus causes delay in the submission of cases; and

(c) if so, whether the Central Government are considering to simplify the procedure so that the clearance of cases is expedited and irrigation schemes in which sufficient investment has been made are completed soon and irrigation benefits reach the farmers quickly?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Central Government has decided to clear all proposals submitted with complete information from the State Governments within six weeks.

**Delegation of powers to states under the Forest Conservation Act**

3548. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to delegate powers under the Forest Conservation Act to the State Governments to clear the forest cases especially for minor irrigation schemes; and

(b) whether Government will also consider relaxing the guidelines relating to the requirement of non-forest land for compensatory afforestation and for funds from the project for afforestation in denuded forest areas; if so, what are the details in this regard?